Vision Zero is the goal to reduce the number of traffic-related fatalities and serious injuries to zero. At its core, this goal is inspired by the belief that traffic collisions are preventable, and even one fatality is too many. In 2014, the community adopted this goal and it is a top priority for the City of Boulder. A data-driven, action-oriented strategy is used to improve safety for people using all modes of travel—whether that’s walking, running, biking or driving, along with any other way people get around town. Based on national best practice, the city employs a holistic 4 E’s (Engineering, Education, Enforcement and Evaluation) approach in working toward our Vision Zero goal.

Boulder has joined leading-edge cities across the country and the world that are working toward this goal. Reaching it requires safe street design, enforcement, strong community partnerships – and you.

Please see VISION ZERO on page 14
Just as it has been every year since 1965, dozens of local teenagers dedicated a chunk of their summer breaks to help maintain Boulder’s many miles of hiking trails and generally take care of the beautiful open space that surrounds the city.

More than 80 young people sweated through the summer as part of Boulder’s Junior Rangers Program, an effort focused on priority natural resource management projects. Split into two, nearly month-long sessions, Junior Rangers learn job skills, discover Open Space and Mountain Parks, perform in a team environment and engage in stewardship building opportunities. Motivated teens work together to make a difference for the land and their community.

The City of Boulder and the larger community owe a great deal of thanks for this hard work.

The second of the two groups this year wrapped up their work in August. The 43 Junior Rangers put in 4,250 total hours of work, spending 19 days rerouting trails on Green Mountain West Ridge and moving more than 50,000 pounds of rock, soil and compost.

It’s not all hard work for Junior Rangers, however. There are valuable life lessons picked up along the way.

“My favorite part of the Junior Ranger season is that each crew has a definitive turning point when shy strangers become confident, inseparable, passionate teams. The sense of community these crews build is so strong – it’s almost palpable!” said Natasha Steinmann, the youth service learning coordinator for OSMP.

Thank you, Junior Rangers!

JUNIOR RANGERS PROGRAM

Junior Rangers are teens aged 14 to 17 who are selected through a competitive application and interview process. They serve for one of two sessions during the summer completing a variety of trails maintenance, clean-up and land restoration projects.

Junior Rangers join a proud legacy of service to our Open Space and Mountain Parks.

For more information about how to get involved, visit bouldercolorado.gov/osmp/junior-rangers.
MESSAGE FROM THE CITY MANAGER

Reaching you where you are

Have you ever had one of those busy days where time just flies by? You head out the door in the morning with a cup of coffee in your hand, and the next thing you know the sun is setting, the day is nearly done and it’s time to start planning for tomorrow.

When it comes to this community newsletter, that is how the past two-plus years have felt.

In these pages we have talked about a wide variety of city programs and events, community members who are making a difference, opportunities for people of all interests and abilities to get involved, and so much more.

The community newsletter was launched in 2016 as a complementary avenue to reach as many people who live in Boulder as possible.

While we expand digital forms of communication like our website, Facebook, Twitter and newer social media platforms such as Instagram and Nextdoor, we recognize there is power in holding news in your hands and reading a print product.

With our 16th edition, and the last for 2018, I want to take a moment to look back at some of the highlights that have filled these pages. And it’s also a time to look forward to 2019 and how we will continue to reach the community and include you in all that is happening here in Boulder.

In our very first edition, back in April 2016, we looked at a unique partnership between the city and Avery Brewing. It remains one of the most popular stories to be published here.

As a reminder, the local beer brewer supplies the city’s 75th Street Wastewater Treatment Facility with weak wort, a sugarwater byproduct of brewing beer. The facility, in turn, uses it to lower nitrogen levels in discharges that flow from the plant.

The partnership is a win-win. The city gets the valuable wort for free, while Avery has a way to dispose of it safely.

Coincidentally, the last edition also highlighted a partnership that benefits multiple parties – the connection between the city, the popular and culturally meaningful Dushanbe Teahouse, and Three Leaf Concepts, the local group that manages the restaurant and events held at the property.

These types of relationships are just two of hundreds that are contributing to the vibrancy of the community. And we believe it’s valuable to amplify stories like these along with all of the other information and activities happening in the city.

We are continuously exploring ways to reach you where you are. For those who are active online, we encourage you to sign up for our various e-newsletters, pop into our social media channels, visit the newsroom housed on the city website and flip on Channel 8 for Inside Boulder News and other programming.

The goal is to offer quick bits of information as well as deeper dives into complicated topics. If you are interested in learning more about something in particular, we strive to have those details available.

These efforts will continue to evolve in 2019, including potential changes to this newsletter and other outreach efforts.

We are grateful for all that the Boulder community offers, and we’d like to hear what stories are important to you and how you prefer to consume information from the city.

Let us know your thoughts at communitynewsletter@bouldercolorado.gov.

JANE BRAUTIGAM
CITY MANAGER

bouldercolorado.gov
Support when it is needed most

For those affected by a crime or tragedy, knowing what to do or where to turn for support can be challenging. Simply processing the situation and finding the strength to face the day can consume all the energy a person may have in that moment. Here in Boulder, we are fortunate to have a community of engaged individuals who dedicate their time and compassion as volunteers for the Victim Advocates Program, which was launched in 1986 and is part of the Police Department’s Victim Services Unit.

Victim advocates hold a special place in the community. Not only do they provide victims with access to resources, referrals, support and practical help, they also take the time to listen or offer a shoulder to cry on.

Aside from their selflessness and willingness to dedicate personal time, advocates work with others in the community when they are at their most vulnerable.

On call one week each month, either on day, night or weekend shifts, advocates respond immediately to the scene of a crime, accident, or victim’s home at the request of an officer.

Susan Townley, Boulder’s Victim Services coordinator, said people from all walks of life and backgrounds volunteer as advocates. But there is more than a little something special about each of them.

“These are people who have empathy, people who care about others. They are retired doctors or therapists, stay-at-home parents, people who have worked for a state department or in education. There is no one type of person who volunteers as a victim advocate,” Townley said.

That is true, though all advocates share at least one similar trait – dedication.

There are currently 55 active volunteer advocates, and they worked with 1,526 victims or witnesses in some capacity in 2017. To get to that point, potential advocates first apply to the program and then take part in an intensive 40 hours of training.

As they continue in the program, advocates are initially paired with a mentor – another volunteer who has been part of the program for at least a year or one who has been on enough calls to provide the needed guidance.

Additionally, there are ongoing education, training and skill-building opportunities throughout the one-year commitment.

This work is extremely valuable to the entire Boulder community. We appreciate all that the victim advocates do, and we encourage anyone interested in learning more to reach out for information.

INTERESTED IN VICTIM ADVOCACY?

Registration for 2019 will open soon. Requirements for applicants include:
- Must be at least 21 years old.
- Must be able to work one shift per month.
- Required to attend a 40-hour training session, which will cover crisis intervention, community resources, active listening and emotional responses to grief and trauma.
- One-year commitment to the program.

There are three on-call shifts available. The day-shift is from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday; the nightshift is from 6 p.m. to 6 a.m., Monday through Friday; and the weekend shift starts at 6 p.m. on Friday and ends at 6 a.m. on Monday.

For more information about this program, visit bouldercolorado.gov/police/victim-services.
How did you hear about the program?: Two years before I started my stepmother took her own life in California. The sheriff showed up at my door at 1 a.m. to give Notice of Death, and two victim advocates arrived with him and they were just fabulous.

What attracted you to this type of volunteer work?: After a personal interaction with the victim advocates, I thought that I would love to be able to reciprocate to the community. It seemed like something that would be very appropriate for me to get involved with. I went through training and really, really liked it. It’s been quite rewarding and I plan to continue.

What advice do you have for others who are thinking about becoming an advocate?: You have to have a certain amount of resilience. You hear a lot of tough things, and you have to have empathy and resilience to stay strong within yourself and give back to that person who needs help. It takes a person who can keep calm and keep centered and take care of themselves in the midst of what they are hearing.

Words of wisdom: The goal is to bring light into whatever dark situation is occurring.

How did you hear about the program?: I retired in 2000 and was looking around for something to do. I can’t sit around and do nothing! I interviewed with (Victim Services Coordinator) Susan Townley, liked the mission and thought it would be very interesting to get involved. Almost 16 years later, here I am.

What attracted you to this type of volunteer work?: I like working with people, and for many years I wanted to be a psychiatrist, though I ended up being a sociologist. You sit down and talk and listen, and I think I have a good ear and empathy for situations. I’m not uncomfortable with crisis.

What advice do you have for others who are thinking about becoming an advocate?: The best way to make a decision, if you have those basic things inside you where you want to help, go and talk with Susan and sign up for training. I always tell people: There is a reason for training. See if this is a good fit for you personally. If it’s not a good fit, drop out. Nobody is going to be scornful because you made a decision that this wasn’t for you.

Words of wisdom: Get involved, touch it, see it, sense it. You might find something of great value.

How did you hear about the program?: I have two friends who were advocates and they mentioned it to me. I had already been giving it some thought for several years and decided I would see if I could help after retiring from Boulder Valley Schools.

What attracted you to this type of volunteer work?: I like to think I have certain characteristics that help with this type of work – patient, big heart, able to be very focused in terms of listening and being present with people when they are dealing with an awful lot of stress, fear and trauma. You have to be able to step back and withhold any type of judgment and be able to work with a variety of different people.

What advice do you have for others who are thinking about becoming an advocate?: Look into your heart. If you think this is a possibility for you, give it a try. If you have it in the back of your mind, then you have something to contribute. We always need advocates, so do a little soul searching and think about what you can bring to the table.

Words of wisdom: It’s the most gratifying thing I’ve ever done in my life.
Boulder hosts climate action summit

In September, the City of Boulder hosted the fifth annual meeting of the Carbon Neutral Cities Alliance (CNCA), which brought together representatives from 22 leading climate action cities across the globe. The five-day summit provided opportunities to collaborate on climate approaches and share innovations and ideas. Boulder is the first city in the United States to host the international conference.

Boulder’s Regional Sustainability Coordinator Jonathan Koehn discussed the event and Boulder’s role as a climate leader.

How has Boulder become a hub for international climate science?

You have to go quite a way back in Boulder’s history to trace the community’s path to becoming a hub for climate science. Certainly, the community has long been concerned with preserving nature, which is best exemplified in the beautiful open space that surrounds the city. But the presence of the federal labs like NIST (National Institute of Standards and Technology), NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration) and of course the University of Colorado has attracted world-class climate researchers from across the globe.

It’s a combination of the area’s natural beauty, research institutions and a public that really stands behind this important topic.

What is the Carbon Neutral Cities Alliance, and what was on the agenda for the recent meeting in Boulder?

The CNCA is a collaboration of leading global cities working to cut greenhouse gas emissions by 80 to 100 percent by 2050 or sooner. The Alliance aims to address what it will take for leading international cities to achieve these deep emissions reductions and how they can work together to meet their respective goals more efficiently and effectively.

During the week-long summit, we got a chance to dive in to some of the great ideas, policies and projects other cities are working on. For instance, I learned about Vancouver’s impressive efforts to bring renewable transportation options to their residents and businesses. We also had a public town hall event where virtual site tours of climate innovations around the world were presented and the community got to ask questions and hear from members of the 20 different attending CNCA city representatives on what they’re up to and new approaches.

Why are gatherings like the Carbon Neutral Cities Alliance meeting important?

Being together really reminded me that we’re a part of a global community that is earnestly and enthusiastically taking on climate change – an issue that can often feel overwhelming. Hearing from other cities and sharing examples from Boulder was a powerful reminder that cities and towns are making meaningful progress.

Boulder will continue to be a world leader in the development and implementation of local climate initiatives. Thanks to the leadership from organizations such as CNCA, as well our participation in groups like Colorado Communities for Climate Action, and all of you in the community, we will create and implement new ways to stabilize the climate.

You can watch what happened at the CNCA community Town Hall event at etown.org/live and learn more about Boulder’s Climate efforts at BoulderClimate.com.

Are you ready for winter? Neither are we. But it is on the way, and here is the info you need:

• “Make it clear” and avoid a $100 fine.
• Within 24 hours after snow stops falling, residents are required to remove snow and ice from their sidewalks.
• Plan alternate routes by car, bus and paths.
• Stay safe on the roads. Cars and bikes should give snow plows plenty of room to operate, allow for more stopping distance and plan for longer travel times during and after snow storms.
• Learn how to prevent and thaw frozen water pipes.

IMPORTANT CONTACTS: Visit InquireBoulder.com to make requests and inquiries. Or call 303-441-3333 to report a sidewalk snow/ice violation • 303-413-7109 for snow dispatch 303-442-4382 or COtrip.org for road conditions within Boulder County.

Learn more: bouldercolorado.gov/public-works/snow
Boulder is working to become a zero waste community. This means reducing the waste we create and then reusing, recycling and composting most of what we throw away. Our goal is to generate new materials from 85 percent of our waste by 2025 rather than send that waste to the landfill. Today, we’re at 51 percent, on track to meet or exceed our goal, but there is still work to be done.

When in doubt, throw it out. It’s better that you accidentally put something in the trash that should go in another bin than contaminate the compost or recycling streams.

Where does Boulder’s waste go?

- Landfill 49%
- Recycling 28%
- Compost 18%
- Reuse 5%

How are other cities doing?

- Boulder 51% (2017)
- San Francisco 80% (2012)
- Denver 20% (2016)

When in doubt, throw it out.

For more information: Visit ZeroWasteBoulder.com Questions on what items go in which bins? Click the “What Goes Where” tab on the righthand side of the page to find out!
A community is best defined by its people. From volunteers to city employees to neighbors helping neighbors, there is no shortage of hometown heroes in Boulder – and we are delighted to spotlight one per newsletter. This edition’s Hometown Hero is:

Folk Football
A cultural and community soccer club

Children of all ages, backgrounds and abilities should have the same opportunities to grow and experience life. After moving to Boulder in 2007, it didn’t take Nami Thompson long to realize how challenging it could be to feel included, connected and engaged with the larger community.

She found hurdles in her path, one that became even more difficult to navigate after her first child arrived. But Thompson is a New Yorker at heart, and she wasn’t about to sit on her hands and do nothing when she could shine a bit of light on the world around her.

First, she founded Boulder Parenting in Diversity, a parent-education group committed to the study of inclusive parenting. As that network expanded, she met Marissa Hallo-Tafura, a mother and long-time activist. Nami and Marissa sought new ways for young people who may be left out of other opportunities in the city to find their footing.

What formed was a blend of healthy activity and a spirit of inclusion – Folk Football: A soccer club for cultural reclamation and community.

The non-competitive soccer club is a program for all children, but particularly children of color who may not have access to recreational activity or whose neighborhoods are not conducive to outdoor play. The focus is on sharing and preserving world culture through sports and games.

“Folk Football is for the benefit of immigrant families as a way to promote a connection to their home countries, build community, and promote safe, healthy exercise,” Nami said. And it is way beyond chasing a ball around the playing field. “We designed the program to integrate storytelling, world geography, pan-African music and some global language skills at each meetup.”

Nami and Marissa connected with Nana Boakye, a former pro soccer player who has coach for FC Boulder for the past five years. Boakye embraced the concept of Soccer without Borders immediately.

“In Boulder most soccer teams come with very high costs, and there didn’t seem to be a cultural balance there,” Boakye said. “I’ve played at the pro level on a lot of teams where I’ve been the single person of color. And I find in Boulder that I am the only black person on the team, which makes me feel like I don’t belong there or don’t see someone who I can connect with.”

With a shared vision, Nami and Nana realized it was possible to provide a program where young people could feel welcome and safe, find room to learn and grow all while benefitting from high-quality soccer training. “We want to make sure families’ cultural roots are not erased,” Nami said. “Soccer is the perfect avenue to do that because it’s so popular around the world and it’s lessons are transmitted intergenerationally. There’s room here to teach young people about world history, language and music through sport.”

Nii Armah Sowah of 1000 Voices African Singing and Dance opened the community on Sept. 8 with a reminder about cooperation over competition. “If one person wins, we have all lost,” he said.

Anyone interested is encouraged to volunteer, join in on the games or just come say hello. For more information, visit parentingindiversity.org.

To nominate a Hometown Hero, please email the person’s name, contact information and a brief reason for the nomination, along with your contact information, to communitynewsletter@bouldercolorado.gov.
Nada define mejor a una comunidad que sus integrantes. Desde voluntarios a empleados de la ciudad, a vecinos ayudando a vecinos, no hay escasez de héroes locales en Boulder, y estamos encantados de destacar uno en cada boletín. En esta edición el héroe de la ciudad es:

**Fútbol popular**
un club de fútbol para el rescate cultural y la comunidad

Los niños de todas las edades, culturas y habilidades deben tener las mismas oportunidades de crecer y experimentar la vida. Después de mudarse a Boulder en 2007, Nami Thompson no tardó mucho en descubrir lo complicado que puede ser sentirse incluida, conectada y comprometida con la comunidad en general.

Ella encontró obstáculos en su camino; un camino que se hizo aún más difícil de navegar después del nacimiento de su primer hijo. Sin embargo, Thompson es una neoyorquina de corazón, y no estaba dispuesta a cruzarse de brazos y no hacer nada cuando podía brindar un poquito de luz al mundo que la rodeaba.

En primer lugar, fundó Boulder Parenting in Diversity, un grupo de educación de padres comprometidos con el estudio de la raza, género, orientación sexual, clase, capacidad, política y crianza inclusiva. A medida que esa red se expandía, conoció a Marissa Hallo-Tafura, madre y activista. Nami y Marissa buscaron nuevas vías para que los jóvenes que pudieran haberse quedado sin otras oportunidades de encontrar su posición en la ciudad.

Lo que formó fue una mezcla de actividad saludable, exposición a la cultura mundial y un espíritu de inclusión, Fútbol popular: un club de fútbol para el rescate cultural y la comunidad.

El club de fútbol no competitivo es un programa para todos los niños, pero en particular para los niños de color que no pueden unirse a un club o cuyos vecindarios no son propios para el juego al aire libre. La atención se centra en el intercambio y la preservación de la cultura mundial a través de los deportes y juegos.

“Fútbol popular es para el beneficio de las familias de inmigrantes como una manera de promover una conexión a sus países de origen, construir la comunidad y fomentar el ejercicio seguro y saludable,” sostuvo Thompson. Además, va más allá de perseguir un balón alrededor del campo de juego. “Hemos diseñado el programa para integrar la narración, geografía mundial, música panafricana y algunas habilidades de idioma global en cada reunión.”

Nami y Marissa se pusieron en contacto con Nana Boakye, un ex jugador de fútbol que ha sido el entrenador de FC Boulder durante los últimos cinco años. Boakye acogió el concepto del Fútbol sin fronteras inmediatamente.

“En Boulder la mayoría de los equipos de fútbol tienen costos muy elevados, y parecía que faltaba equilibrio cultural allí,” dijo Boakye. “He jugado a nivel profesional en muchos equipos donde he sido la única persona de color. En Boulder soy la única persona negra en el equipo, lo cual me hace sentir que no pertenezco allí o no veo a alguien con quien me puedo conectar.”

Con una visión compartida, Thompson y Boakye se dieron cuenta de que era posible ofrecer un programa donde los jóvenes pueden sentirse bienvenidos y seguros, encontrar un espacio para aprender y crecer mientras que se benefician con un entrenamiento de fútbol de alta calidad.

“Queremos asegurarnos de que no se elimine la parte cultural,” sostuvo Thompson. “El fútbol es la avenida perfecta para hacer eso gracias a su popularidad a nivel mundial y sus lecciones se transmiten de una generación a otra. Hay espacio aquí para enseñar a los jóvenes acerca de la historia del mundo, el idioma y la música a través del deporte.”

Se anima a todas las personas interesadas a ser voluntarios, participar en los juegos o simplemente venir y decir hola. Hay más información disponible en línea en parentingindiversity.org.
Dance is for Every Body!, the annual free, fall festival, is an opportunity for audiences of all ages to experience this art form from a range of dance artists in our region. Equal parts entertainment and education, this family-friendly event hosts individual dancers, dance companies, studios and schools in a variety of dance genres during a full weekend in the Canyon Theater of the Main Boulder Public Library.

The 2018 showcases are scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 3, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday, Nov. 4, from 1 to 5 p.m. Dancers will have 5- to 15-minute time slots to share performances of finished work, mini classes with audience participation, lecture/demonstrations, structured improvisations, or works-in-progress.

Professional as well as novice dancers and emerging artists have been invited to participate, many offering new work or performing on stage for the first time. The intimate setting of the Canyon Theater allows for a more personal experience and exchange between the artists and the public.

These showcases have been a tradition in Boulder since the early 1990s, when the Boulder Dance Alliance/Space for Dance started the event to provide an opportunity for dancers of all levels to celebrate their art form. Though the parent organization has since folded, Dance Bridge, a City of Boulder Office of Arts + Culture program, took on the project in 2003 and has been producing this event each year since.

For more information, contact Dance Bridge coordinator, Mary Wohl Haan, 303-441-4391, dancebridge@boulderlibrary.org or boulderarts.org/dance-bridge.

Don't miss Dance is for Every Body!
In the past 5 years over 300 dancers have performed with more than 600 audience members stopping by throughout the weekend.
Below is an update on several current and upcoming City of Boulder construction projects that may affect traffic and parking in the city. For the latest updates on these and other construction projects, be sure to check BoulderConeZones.net.

SAFETY TIP: For your safety and that of the construction crews, and to ensure that work can be completed on time, please observe all detours and do not enter the work zone – marked by cones, barrels, barricades and fencing.

1. Wonderland Creek Greenway Improvement
   **Duration:** Project has been substantially completed. Repair and restoration, including landscaping, will continue through the early fall.
   **Description:** Flood mitigation and construction of multi-use paths and underpasses.
   **Impact:** Periodic closures to the multi-use path system will continue through October to facilitate the remaining landscaping and repair work.

2. Arapahoe Avenue Reconstruction
   **15th Street to Broadway**
   **Duration:** Street reconstruction was completed in August. Underpass reconstruction, sidewalk and utility work will continue through early 2019.
   **Description:** Multimodal improvements, including complete reconstruction of the Arapahoe and Boulder Creek Underpass at 13th Street.
   **Impact:** Underpass will remain closed with on-street crossing detour. Portions of Central Park are blocked off for staging and construction. Intermittent motor vehicle impacts.

3. Valmont Road/34th Street and BNSF Railway Improvements
   **Valmont Road Between Foothills and 30th Street**
   **Duration:** Through November 2018
   **Description:** Improvements include a reconstructed surface railroad crossing, new traffic signal at Valmont Road and 34th Street as well as sidewalk, multi-use path and median improvements.
   **Impacts:** Single-lane closures during off-peak hours; bike lanes are closed and cyclists asked to merge with traffic. In late October for approximately two weeks, travel lanes in both directions will be closed to through traffic, with business access only between Foothills and 30th Street; through traffic will be detoured to the Diagonal Highway (S.H. 119) or Pearl Parkway.

4. 63rd Street/Gunbarrel Avenue/Nautilus Drive Traffic Signal
   **Duration:** Two months; anticipated to begin late September/early October.
   **Description:** Traffic signal, curb ramp improvements.
   **Impacts:** Temporary, off-peak lane closures on 63rd Street and Gunbarrel Avenue/Nautilus Drive, as well as temporary sidewalk detours, bus stop relocations and possible bike lane closures.

5. Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation Program
   **Work will focus on the Newlands area with work in multiple other locations**
   **Duration:** Through December
   **Description:** Maintenance to ensure sewers are in good condition and functioning correctly. More information is available: bit.ly/boulder-sewer.
   **Impact:** Short-term traffic and parking restrictions. Indoor water use restricted for a short period of time; properties will be notified in advance.

6. Treated Water Distribution Program
   **Multiple locations**
   **Duration:** Through November
   **Description:** Water main replacement program on residential streets.
   **Impacts:** Limited parking on streets, closed sidewalks and short-term water outages; properties will be notified in advance.

For more information about these projects, visit bouldercolorado.gov/transportation and bouldercolorado.gov/water. Visit CoTrip.org for information about Colorado Department of Transportation projects or bouldercounty.org/transportation/closures-and-construction for Boulder County projects.

Please note that start and completion dates could change due to factors such as weather.
Alpine-Balsam plan is moving along

Community hub, vibrant, inclusive, equitable and sustainable. These themes are part of the vision for the city-owned property that was formerly the Boulder Community Health Broadway Campus, located between Alpine and Balsam avenues.

Purchased by the city in 2015, the site is intended to serve the community and further enhance an already thriving neighborhood just north of downtown. The redevelopment of the almost 9-acre site is an opportunity for Boulder to create a very special place.

The Alpine-Balsam project is envisioned to complement and align with what is already great about the neighborhood – walkability, convenient shopping, park access and places to gather – to strengthen the sense of place and fill the void that will be left by the vacated hospital.

In May, the city kicked off the area plan process that will help determine redevelopment on the site and consider potential impacts (both positive and negative) on the neighborhood. Over the past few months, the project team has held several pop-up events around Boulder to learn what goals community members value most for the future of the site.

The already-completed Vision Plan for Alpine-Balsam identified addressing the critical need for affordable housing as a priority, as is creating a centralized hub for customer service by moving city services out of aging and inefficient buildings in the Civic Area and other locations around town.

Using the community's feedback on the vision for the site, the project team, including consultants and subject matter experts from departments throughout the city, has been working to develop conceptual alternatives that will be brought to the community for feedback this October. These options will help community members express what they would prioritize on the site.

In November, City Council will be given an update on the project progress and will provide direction on key choices. The area plan process is anticipated to be completed in mid-2019.

Visit bouldercolorado.gov/planning/alpinebalsam for updates and opportunities to engage in the area plan process. More information and an opportunity to provide feedback is available through Beheardboulder.org.

Connect with us

Find the City of Boulder on social media

Get the latest news, information and videos about what’s happening in our community.

Use Inquire Boulder to get questions answered and report issues.

Inquire Boulder is the city's virtual city information desk, giving you the opportunity to look up information and submit non-urgent service requests to the City of Boulder 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Visit inquireboulder.com to access it, or download the app by searching in the Apple App Store or Google Play Store.
BUILDING COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

The city has strengthened collaboration with local, regional, and state agencies and civic organizations through the Vision Zero Community Partnership.

For example, the city and Boulder County worked together to make safety improvements to Jay Road, which has seen one of the highest frequencies of bicycle-related collisions in the county. Improvements include the installation of a buffer to separate the bike lane from the travel lane, pedestrian refuge islands, enhanced bus stops and green markings to highlight areas where cyclists and motorists share space.

Another great example is the Safe Routes to School program, an ongoing partnership between the city and Boulder Valley School District (BVSD) to enhance the safety of K-8 students walking and biking to school. Currently, the city and BVSD team is in the second year of a special Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) grant-funded program focused on travel safety at three elementary schools: Mesa, University Hill and Whittier.

Program elements include bicycle safety education and walk- and bike-to-school maps. The intent is to identify programs that could be applied in the future at other BVSD schools.

IMPROVING EDUCATION AND AWARENESS

City staff along with partner organizations have been working hard to improve public education about Vision Zero and safe traffic behaviors.

The city and the University of Colorado Boulder entered into an exciting partnership this fall to play Vision Zero safety videos at CU Buffs football games to discourage impaired and distracted driving. CU Boulder also continues to partner with the city on the Heads Up crosswalk safety and enforcement program aimed to help students travel safely around campus. This program used Snapchat ads to remind college students to stay alert at crosswalks, and to date this campaign has registered more than 148,000 total impressions with Snapchat users.

IMPLEMENTING VZ ENGINEERING TREATMENTS

Since 2016, over 130 distinct traffic safety engineering improvements have been implemented at 90-plus locations throughout Boulder. One example is a “Leading Pedestrian Interval” (LPI), also known as a “Pedestrian Head Start,” which gives pedestrians additional time to cross intersections before vehicles begin moving (thereby increasing their visibility to motorists).

LPIs have been installed at 12 intersections around town, most recently at 30th and Walnut streets. Another recent example is the installation of green pavement markings at Folsom Street and Arapahoe Avenue to visually warn drivers of cyclists.

EVALUATION IS KEY TO ONGOING PROGRESS

Evaluation is key to achieving Boulder's Vision Zero goal as it helps us understand types of collisions, when and where they occur and which factors might prevent them in the future.

The Vision Zero Action Plan and Safe Streets Boulder analysis, which is being updated this year, serve as the primary evaluation tool for the city’s Vision Zero safety initiatives, and their findings will inform the policies and investment priorities of the 2019 Transportation Master Plan (TMP). Learn how to get involved with the TMP update process at bouldercolorado.gov/transportation/tmp.

Passionate community involvement has helped spread the Vision Zero message and underlined our community’s dedication to eliminating serious injuries and fatalities caused by traffic collisions. There is still much work to be done and it takes everyone working together to make our streets safe.

For more information about Vision Zero, please visit bouldercolorado.gov/transportation/vision-zero.
How you can help the community make Vision Zero a reality

Eliminating serious injuries and fatalities from traffic collisions depends on individuals making good choices. Here are some ways to help reach our Vision Zero goal.

**KNOW YOUR LIMIT**

Colorado has two offenses related to driving while impaired:

1. Driving While Ability Impaired (DWAI)
   - Blood alcohol concentration (BAC) of 0.05 percent or higher.
   - Up to 180 days in jail, up to $500 fine.

2. Driving While Under the Influence (DUI):
   - Blood alcohol concentration (BAC) of 0.08 percent or higher.
   - Up to 1 year in jail, up to $1,000 fine, license suspended for 9 months.

Explore the “Virtual Bar” at Responsibility.org to understand how a surprisingly few number of drinks can cause BAC to jump (note the Virtual Bar simply provides estimates of BAC and is not a scientific or legal tool for measuring BAC – BAC is influenced by a variety of complex factors).

Even a couple of beers consumed on an empty stomach over the course of an hour can cause BAC to exceed 0.05 percent. Never drink and drive – err on the side of caution and find a safe ride home.

Please also be sure to practice these safe habits when traveling around Boulder:

- Avoid distractions – that text can wait.
- Watch out for motorcycles.
- Fully stop at intersections. Look both ways and yield to pedestrians and cyclists every time.
- Remember that flashing yellow arrows do not mean oncoming traffic will stop. Yield to oncoming traffic and make left turns safely.
- Stay cool in right-turn lanes and avoid rear-ending.

Check out the new dashboard on the Vision Zero website to view data on traffic collisions in Boulder: bouldercolorado.gov/transportation/vision-zero.
Join the conversation about local power

Issues like affordable housing, land use and protecting our natural resources demonstrate that ours is a community that can make choices about the future through collaboration and thoughtful dialogue.

So, we’re renewing the conversation about an issue that will affect the community for generations: should the city move forward with local power and become the electricity provider serving Boulder? This issue is as important as other transformational projects in Boulder’s history.

For some, this topic is a familiar one – whether it’s known as municipalization, energy future, or electric utility development. Many hold strong opinions and some have expressed wariness. Still, for others, this remains an unfamiliar topic. The city’s goal over the next few years is to communicate more effectively and offer more opportunities for participation and shared learning.

When this conversation began several years ago, we used the phrase, “you have the power to decide.” That is even truer today, thanks to a future election to determine if the city will take the final steps toward local power. That vote is expected to occur in 2020.

Here are our promises during this next phase:

**We will be inclusive and equitable.** It’s not fun to be left out. Conversations are better when more community members can join in, especially those with different experiences and perspectives.

**We will be transparent.** Nobody likes secrets. Our job is to be open provide all the information needed for community members to make an informed decision. If we don’t know an answer, or can’t say because it’s tied to something sensitive, like legal preparations, we’ll make that known.

**We will be substantive.** Details matter. We know access to key information is critical, like how a utility would be run, how much it will cost and what it’ll mean to community members. We’ll work to provide specifics.

**We will be accessible.** There are lots of ways to participate. We’ll strive to make every minute of count, whether at council meetings, city events, settings with smaller crowds or online.

**We will be community-centered.** This project is about the entire community. We’re here to support learning and get input on factors that will impact lives. We want to foster constructive and healthy dialogue, because at the end of the day, we’re one Boulder, with plenty of room for diverse opinions and values.

This is a complex topic and there is a lot to analyze, which means we all need to use the next two years wisely. For those who haven’t been involved or have moved away from the conversation, we need to hear those voices! For those already engaged, that’s great – and the conversation can grow by inviting others to participate.

You have the power to decide.

Visit bouldercolorado.gov/LocalPower to check out our brand-new engagement guide, which describes why community participation in this project matters and offers guidance for the variety of options to learn more and share thoughts between now and 2020. Printed copies also are available at various city facilities.

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**September was the Fifth Anniversary of the 2013 Floods**

Remember, floods can happen anytime of the year, any given year, even if it just flooded.

While the city continues to mitigate flood impacts, it’s important for residents and businesses to also be prepared:

- Purchase flood insurance whether or not you’re in a floodplain. The city’s flood mitigation and preparedness efforts provide city customers up to a 25 percent discount on insurance premiums.
- Move valuable items from the basement in case of a flood or high groundwater levels.
- Clean out your gutters and ensure they drain at least five feet from the building foundation.
- If you have a sump pump, test to see if it’s working properly at least twice a year.
- Check that the sump pump discharges to the landscape or storm sewer system and not the sanitary sewer system, sidewalks, or other public right-of-way.

For more information, visit www.BoulderFloodInfo.net

Printed on 100% recycled paper.
The planned North Boulder Branch Library aims to be an inspiring space where all community members can come together to learn, grow, discover and deepen their connection with neighbors and the world.

Progress toward that goal is underway. In August, the North Boulder Branch Library project kicked off phase one, which includes preliminary planning, community engagement and site analysis. The new library is funded by revenues from an extension to the Community, Culture and Safety (CCS) Tax, which was approved by Boulder voters in November 2017. The need for a full-service library branch in North Boulder was first identified in the early '90s and reemphasized in the North Boulder Subcommunity Plan, adopted in 1995.

“With the CCS Tax extension, and with residents’ support, the library is positioned to fulfill a dream that has been in the works for over 25 years,” said Antonia Gaona, project manager and public services manager for the Boulder Public Library. “Our challenge will be reflecting the wishes and aspirations of this dynamic community, and doing it within a square footage our site and budget can support. We’re up to the task!”

The specific programs, services and amenities that will inhabit the new North Boulder Branch Library have yet to be determined. But based on widespread community demand the new library will feature a robust materials collection, makerspace, community meeting rooms and programming for visitors of all ages.

WORKac was selected as the design firm for the project, chosen for its experience creating community spaces that blend the natural and urban environments. It was named the number one design firm in the United States in 2017 by Architect Magazine.

As part of the site selection and programming phase for the new branch library in North Boulder, project staff and WORKac held a series of community engagement events in August. The purpose of these events was to have conversations with Boulder residents about what an ideal library would look like and what would create a true community space, built with neighbors’ wants and needs in mind.

The North Boulder Branch Library will be in close to proximity to some of Boulder’s most diverse neighborhoods, and connecting with underserved groups is a central mission of the project.

The library will have Spanish-language materials, children’s storytimes and other programs geared for Spanish-speaking patrons. Library staff hosted a series of engagement events with Spanish-speaking and lower-income residents to hear their hopes and concerns about the new library. This and other community feedback were incorporated into the community engagement report published in September on the library website.

As for next steps, the architects will present to the Design Advisory Board and the Library Commission will review the plans this fall. A final decision on the site for the new library will be made by the end of 2018. Phase two – the design process – will begin in 2019, with construction of the library anticipated for 2020.

To learn more about the North Boulder Branch Library project, visit boulderlibrary.org/nobo-branch.
Marijuana in Boulder

Information and frequently asked questions

Recreational and medicinal marijuana is legal in Colorado, but there are a number of rules and regulations that must be followed. Boulder’s municipal codes include different provisions than Colorado’s state laws, so take a moment to review city-specific codes before buying, using or growing marijuana in the city.

Check out the green box to the right for answers to common questions. An exhaustive list of details for both individuals and businesses can be accessed online at bouldercolorado.gov/marijuana.

Deadline approaching to obtain firearm certificate

City of Boulder residents who were legally in possession of an assault weapon prior to June 15, 2018, have until Dec. 31, 2018, to obtain a certificate for the assault weapon from the Boulder Police Department.

For more details and information, please visit bouldercolorado.gov/police/firearm-certification.
Building a better city website

What if the City of Boulder website was as easy to use as the websites you love most? What if the website was made just for you?

The city is working to improve Boulder.gov by better understanding your needs — and the needs of other users — so it can better serve them.

The website receives roughly 8 million pageviews a year, making it the city’s primary platform for information and services. The current city website was launched in 2013 and needs to be updated.

The city hired a consultant in May to help develop a plan to make the website faster and easier for the public to navigate. Here’s a quick look at work currently underway to make systematic, measurable improvements to the current city website and lay the groundwork for a new city website in the future.

LISTENING TO YOU

User input is crucial for making the city website better, and the city is collecting information in a variety of ways, including a questionnaire that can be completed by visiting bit.ly/websiteimprovement. The city also held an open house in August to seek public input.

The City of Boulder has been conducting user testing, asking residents to complete common tasks on the website. These tests help determine how long it takes to complete a task or find specific information.

The city is developing a new system for organizing content on its website, testing it and then refining it to increase success rates with tasks and decrease the amount of time it takes to complete them. Users of the city website self-report that they find what they are looking for about 70 percent of the time. This figure, along with others, will be used to measure the effectiveness of changes to the website.

IDENTIFYING WHAT TO FIX FIRST

From paying a utility bill to finding a trail, the city has used survey and web traffic data to identify the most common reasons people visit the city website. We plan to make improvements to the most popular pages and services first, hopefully making them easier to find.

The city is also inventorying all of its web content and e-services, including nearly 5,000 webpages, to help identify the next issues to tackle and plan for better ways to organize content in the future. Information collected by staff about the calls, emails and walk-in traffic the city commonly receives from the public will also help identify ways the website can better meet customer service needs and reduce staff time.

MAKING IMPROVEMENTS, NOW AND OVER TIME

The City of Boulder will complete initial research and stakeholder engagement on its website this fall. The city has been and will continue to improve the current website based on the findings. We hope that over time, these improvements will make the website easier for you to use.

This project will result in a new way to organize information and a new navigation system that will improve the current website while laying the groundwork for a new website. The overarching goal is to develop a website that better serves you — and our entire community.
This community newsletter is created by the City of Boulder to share local government news, information, initiatives and events with residents.

It will be printed and distributed bi-monthly through 2018. You also can sign up to receive an electronic version in your email inbox by visiting bouldercolorado.gov/newsletter.

We welcome your feedback!

If you have suggestions for future stories you’d like to read, please email them to communitynewsletter@bouldercolorado.gov.

In keeping with Boulder’s sustainability values, the paper used for this newsletter contains recycled content and the printer is FSC certified, which means they follow standards required by the Forest Stewardship Council. Please recycle this newsletter after use.